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I hereby certify that this correspondence and any document referred to as being attached thereto is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 30, 2005.

Amy C. Walker
(Name of person mailing paper)

Amy C. Walker
(Signature)

PATENT
Docket No.: 57188/02-774
Response to Office Action
Page 1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/696,544 Confirmation No.: 7788
Applicant: Confer et al.
Filed: 10/29/2003
Title: *M. Haemolytica* Outer Membrane Protein PlpE as a Vaccine Component
Against Shipping Fever
Art Unit: 1645
Examiner: Devi, Sarvamangala J N

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This paper is submitted in timely response to the Official Action mailed 12/30/2004. No extension of time or additional fee is believed to be required; however, to the extent any such extension or fee is in fact required, please consider this to constitute a Conditional Petition for Extension of Time for the appropriate length should such be necessary. If any additional fee is required by virtue of the filing of this paper, please also consider this a general authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 06-0540 for the same.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims, if any, are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 10 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 12 of this paper and include both the four (4) attached replacement sheets for FIGS. 2-5 and annotated sheets showing changes made.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.

A new **Declaration** is attached.